

Minutes of a meeting of **Minterne Magna Parish Council** held on **Wednesday January 23rd 2019**
at Minterne House, Minterne Magna, at 7.30pm.

Present: The Lord Digby, Chairman, Mr. P. Goodfellow,, Mr. G. Stevenson Mr. C. Saunders, Mr. S. Tite, Mrs. M. Penfold, County Councillor, Mr. A.F. Horsington, District Councillor, Mr. T. Yarker, District Councillor and the Clerk, Mr. P. Horsington.

Three members of the public also attended.

39. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs. H. Smith, Mrs. C. Howard- Johnston, & PCSO S. Pilcher.

40. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

41. Open Session – Police & Community matters, County & District Councillors' reports

The Chairman read the update on Crime figures received from PCSO S. Pilcher, this included incidents – theft of farm machinery at Middlemarsh and one report of a Scam call.

The Email strongly urged that any suspicious incidents are reported at the time, by dialling 101 or online.

Breakins of outbuildings are still happening and marking of all tools helps. If any are recovered by the Police, to get them returned to their owners.

Mrs. Penfold, County Councillor asked if the School transport was still satisfactory, and it was agreed that it was working well. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Penfold for her assistance in resolving the issue.

Mr. Yarker, District Councillor gave a report on the progress of the creation of the Unitary Council for Dorset stating that it is on target to commence with the new Authority from the elections being held on May 2nd 2019. There is to be an overall reduction of staff and it will be a more efficient delivery of services.

The Council noted the timescale for the Dorset Council elections – Notices being published on March 15th, nominations period from March 18th to April 3rd, the Notice of Poll published on April 24th & elections being held on May 2nd.

Mr. A. F. Horsington, District Councillor informed the meeting that three areas are being proposed to deal with Planning matters, with an overarching Committee to monitor decisions. Mr. Horsington stated that he has major concerns that the new proposals propose that all Parish Council comments will be sent to Ward members for consideration and not to the Planning officers. This he felt as a matter of principle, was wrong, and he will be raising this at the next meeting of the Shadow Committee, stating that Parish Council comments should continue to be sent to the Planning officers. The Parish Council fully endorsed this view.

It was noted that Minterne Magna Parish will be within the Chalk Valleys division.

Mr. Stanzl reported that a vehicle had demolished a traffic sign at Middlemarsh, which has not been replaced. It was agreed that this is to be reported to County Highways.

42. Financial matters

The Chairman reported the Balances at 12/12/18, being £4,118.43p. It was noted that the two donations sent from the last meeting had been received and paid.

The Chairman gave all members a copy of the finances to date, with the forward budget for the year 2019/20. After discussion, noting that there would be a charge to the Parish Council for any election held for members to the Parish Council of £335.15p, on the proposition of Mr. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Goodfellow, the Council unanimously approved the budget and precept of £2,000 for 2019/20. Mr. Yarker pointed out there would be no charge to the Parish Council if there was no contested election held for members to the Parish Council.

43. Planning matters

It was noted that there were no applications to consider.

In answer to a query from Mr. Stevenson, the Clerk reported that there had been no response from the Enforcement Officer, West Dorset District Council reference the situation at The Stables, Middlemarsh. Mr. Yarker, District Councillor was given a copy of the letter sent from the Parish Council in November.

44. Rights of Way

In the absence of Mrs. Howard-Johnston, there were no issues raised or reported.

45. Highway matters

Mr. Goodfellow reported overhanging branches in Kennels lane, Middlemarsh. It was agreed to report this issue and the damaged sign at Middlemarsh, reported earlier, to County Highways for their attention.

46. Flooding issues

Mr. Tite stated that there were no issues to report.

47. Correspondence

The Council noted the Dorset Town & Council newsletter, Future Dorset & Clerks Direct.

48. Items for report, or for the agenda of the next meeting

There were no issues raised.

49. To confirm the date of the next meeting

The Chairman thanked both the County Councillor, Mrs. Penfold and the two District Councillors, Mr. A. F. Horsington & Mr T. Yarker for their help and support over the past four years. It was noted that this was the last meeting of all three attending the Parish council, as Mr. Horsington will not be standing for the new Authority and Mrs. Penfold & Mr. Yarker will not be standing as candidates for the Chalk Valleys division.

There being no other business, the Council confirmed that date of the next meeting for Wednesday May 15th 2019 following the Annual Parish meeting at 8.00pm.

The Chairman thanked all present for their attendance, and closed the meeting at 8.06pm.

Signed:

Date: